

# Upon a Time

*by* Tim Young

once upon a time  
in the beginning  
a shadow rolled down a hill  
bolstered by its confidence daily  
by swimming in the dark  
until now the lady finds a place to park  
where it appears a dragon lost his tooth  
while the main event shakes everything loose  
so stage rises up in anger  
the songs jump a bus out of town  
the windbreakers caked with rain  
cascade all the windows down

while mercury may be rising  
the soil may be wet  
the children running on empty  
forget they're supposed to forget  
but can't you hear the engines thumping  
gears scratched across the universe  
playing monkey in the middle  
so you can't have it  
no you can't have it  
slamming the damn thing into reverse

up periscope glides metallic inside a  
coffee colored stained submarine  
visions concealed by water  
baking in the sun still looking sickly green  
yet isn't there a moment when  
you ever shut the fuck up  
traipsing all over ideas  
shaking each lady so hard for luck

then all crawl out from the wreckage  
to begin a dance lasts all night  
so by morning we'll be tired  
surprised we're still upright  
hopefully the bar is not closing  
hopefully someone is still waiting  
just wait a while longer  
a second time around  
and so i'm flying off  
to san francisco  
sitting by the dock of the bay  
while all my timing  
slips deep down into the water  
at least I knew  
to splash my face  
right away

look over there  
where here comes molly  
with her new boyfriend  
ear rings and silver chains  
a fortune hanging still remains  
come on come a little bit closer  
kissing so close to my mind  
my tongue aches in its empty pit  
waiting and longing for it  
all right hold on it's coming  
like a freight train whistles every night  
hauling the long arm of secrets  
never fully explained  
but it's all right  
jumping jack flash knows it all  
exactly where alice was found  
sliding on a silver pole

sliding down deep into the rabbit's hole  
she felt alive like never before  
she felt like a rock n roll singer  
she felt moon beams pierce her heart  
she felt the guilt of a sinner

inside the hottest fire burns everything  
except a passion not tied down  
reaching into the blue part of the flame  
the incinerator begins to move around  
look at all the tragedies  
the comedies not in the news  
riding in the brand new car  
toasting with vodka and juice  
don't tempt me with one more tale  
don't ride me like a lunatic from hell  
just release me from this jail

then i heard the story  
it was four nights in a stinking cell  
with the rats and insects stealing  
everything but my nuts i hid so well  
it was actually a nightmare  
a thinly veiled daydream in drag  
moving me over to the side of the road  
where i couldn't fit because  
i was too wide  
please don't mention any of this  
to my mother  
she prefers a more quiet life  
at the table with her coffee  
she plays the radio  
and sharpens her new knife

